Git OSS-um: A Tool for Newcomers to Open Source Software



Team Members

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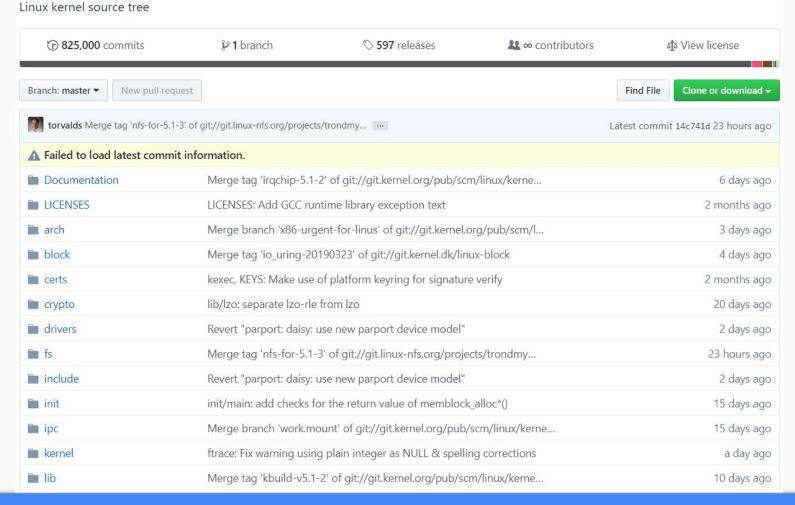
Mentor: Ana Steinmacher Sponsor: Igor Steinmacher

What is Open Source Software?

Principles:

- Transparency
- Open exchange
- Collaborative participation
- Community-oriented development
- Contribution Process





Issue Example 1

EXEMPLE

Linux kernel

There are several guides for kernel developers and users. These guides can be rendered in a number of formats, like HTML and PDF. Please read Documentation/admin-guide/README.rst first.

In order to build the documentation, use ``make htmldocs`` or ``make pdfdocs``. The formatted documentation can also be read online at:

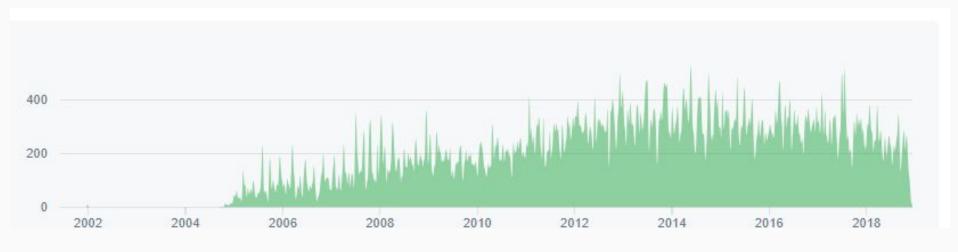
https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/

There are various text files in the Documentation/ subdirectory, several of them using the Restructured Text markup notation.

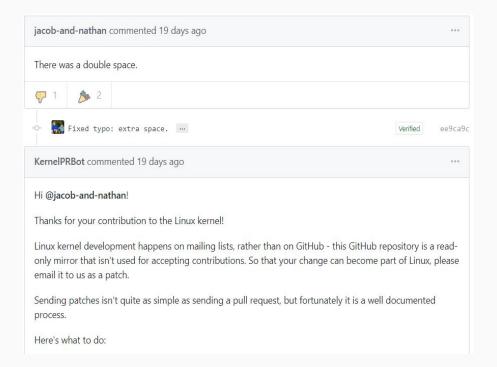
Please read the Documentation/process/changes.rst file, as it contains the requirements for building and running the kernel, and information about the problems which may result by upgrading your kernel.

Issue Example 2

GitHub's "Activity" Statistics (Torvalds/Linux)



Complicated Process 2



- · Format your contribution according to kernel requirements
- · Decide who to send your contribution to
- · Set up your system to send your contribution as an email
- Send your contribution and wait for feedback

How do I format my contribution?

The Linux kernel community is notoriously picky about how contributions are formatted and sent. Fortunately, they have documented their expectations.

Firstly, all contributions need to be formatted as patches. A patch is a plain text document showing the change you want to make to the code, and documenting why it is a good idea.

You can create patches with git format-patch.

Secondly, patches need 'commit messages', which is the human-friendly documentation explaining what the change is and why it's necessary.

Thirdly, changes have some technical requirements. There is a Linux kernel coding style, and there are licensing requirements you need to comply with.

Both of these are documented in the Submitting Patches documentation that is part of the kernel.

Note that you will almost certainly have to modify your existing git commits to satisfy these requirements. Don't worry: there are many guides on the internet for doing this.

Who do I send my contribution to?

Complicated Process 3

What does the future look like?

- 1.1 Billion total contributions
- 31 Million People
- 96 Million Repositories
- 200 Million Pull Requests
- The impact of 10%



Our Client

- Dr. Igor Steinmacher, professor at NAU
- Research includes:
 - Support for newcomers in OSS
 - Contributor behavior in OSS
 - Crowdsourcing software engineering



Newcomer Points of Concern

Finding a candidate project

 Finding your first project to submit a contribution to can be daunting and difficult.

Information Overload

 Repositories can be very confusing because of the amount of information they give at the start.

Unable to Gauge Activity

 Finding statistics of activity for repositories is difficult for newcomers not knowing where to look.

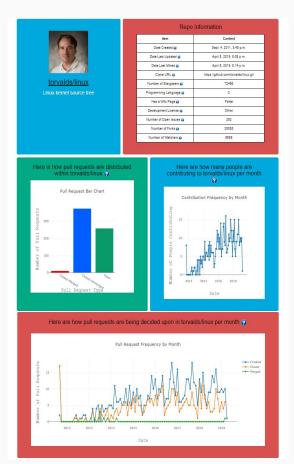
Unaccepting of New Contributions

 Newcomers don't want to look foolish when making their first attempt at contributing.



Product: A web application that helps a newcomer to Open Source find a project to contribute to by:

- Displaying simple and easy to read statistics that don't overload the newcomer with information.
- Helping gauge the activity of a repository.
- Showing the acceptance rate of submitted contributions.

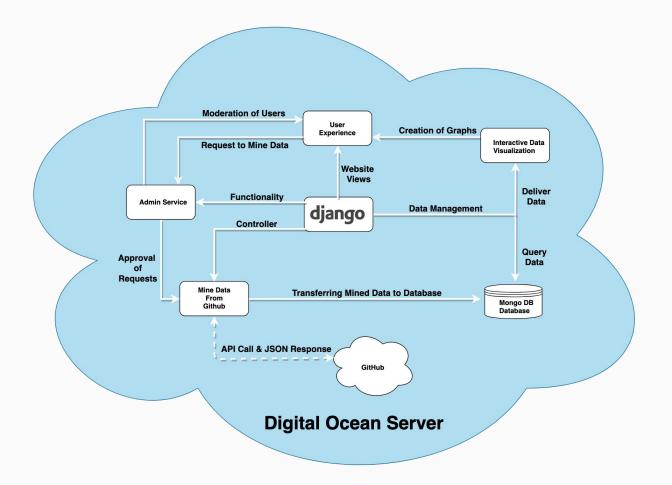


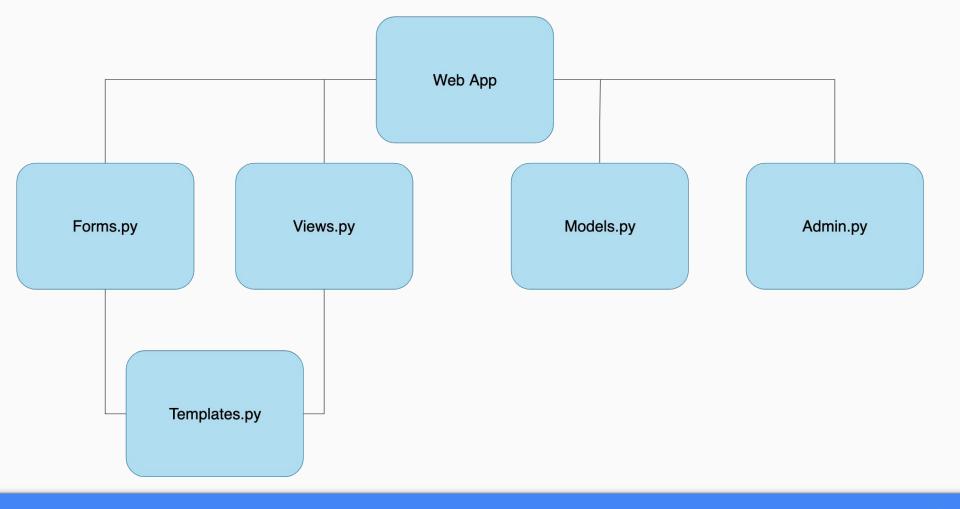
Solution Overview 10

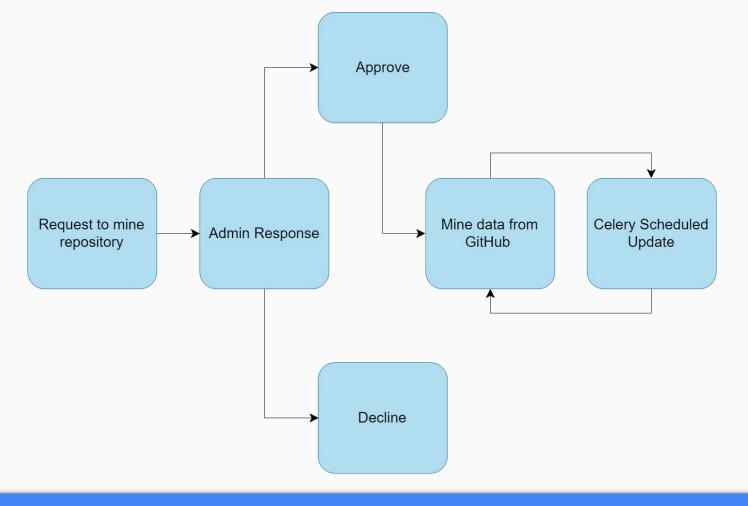
High-Level Requirements

- Login Services
- Mining Data From GitHub
- Data Storage
- Analyze and Visualize Data
- Hosted Web Application









Data Mining Flow

How the app works

Use Case:

 As a user, I would like to be able to view easily readable data about a repository I am interested in to submit my first Open Source contribution.

User Flow:

 A user would start at our homepage, go to mined repos page, click on repo and view data on repo page.

Welcome to Git OSS-um!

You want to contribute, we want to help!

Product Description

Git OSS-um is a tool to help newcomers to open source software find the best project to make their first contribution.

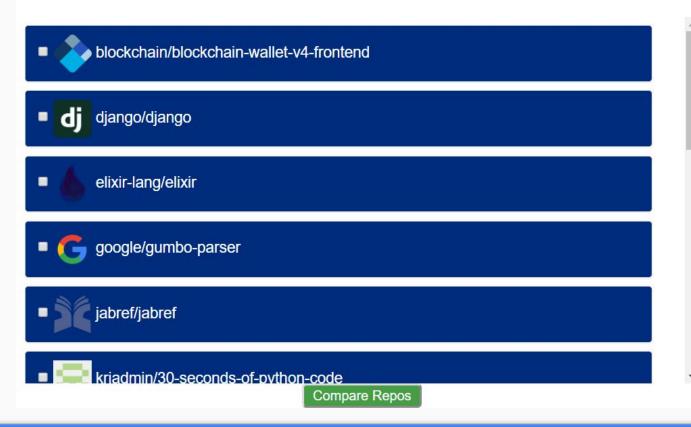
Enjoy and Happy Coding!

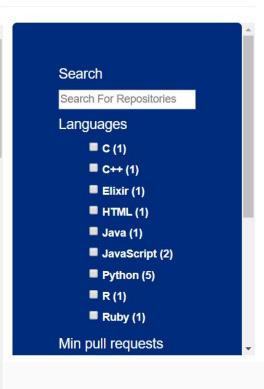
We hope our product helps you make a successful first contribution!

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Mined Repos(16)

Filters





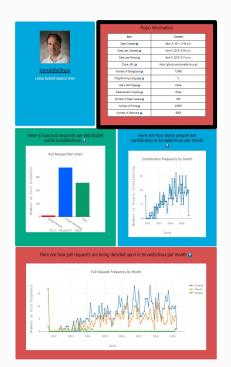
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Repo List

Open Source Newcomer Issues:

Finding a Project 🗸





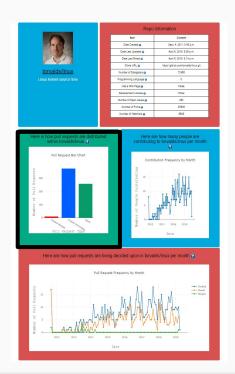
| Item | Content |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Date Created ? | Sept. 4, 2011, 3:48 p.m. |
| Date Last Updated ? | April 18, 2019, 1:56 p.m. |
| Date Last Mined ? | April 18, 2019, 3 p.m. |
| Clone URL 2 | https://github.com/torvalds/linux.git |
| Number of Stargazers Output Description: | 73684 |
| Programming Language ② | С |
| Has a Wiki Page 🛭 | False |
| Development License 🚱 | Other |
| Number of Open Issues ② | 262 |
| Number of Forks | 25822 |
| Number of Watchers ? | 6708 |

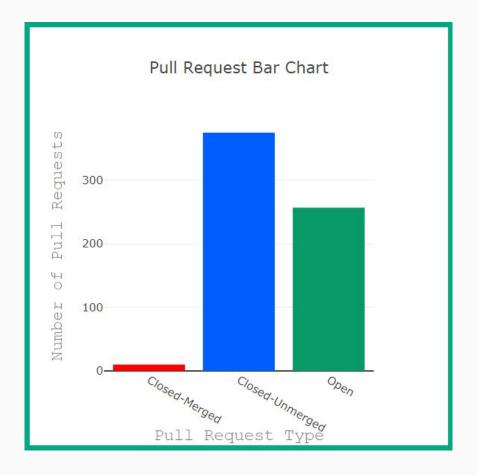
Repo Details

Open Source Newcomer Issues:

Information Overload 🗸



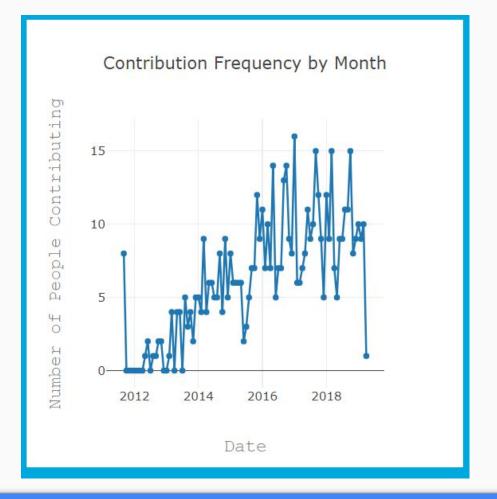




19 Repo Details

Open Source Newcomer Issues:



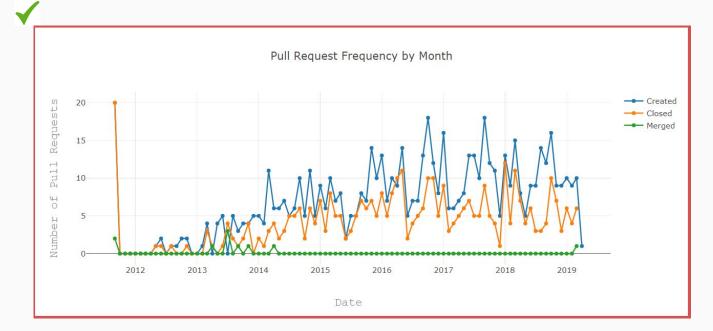


Repo Details 20

Open Source Newcomer Issues:

Unaccepting of New Contributions





Repo Details 2⁻

Testing

- Unit Testing
 - 100 Unit Tests
 - 7 Test Suites
- Integration Testing
 - Combining unit tests as well as front-end testing.
- User Testing
 - Recruiting students and faculty to perform tasks using our app.



Risks & Obstacles

Risks

- We provide facts, not opinions
- Repository name changes
- Microsoft changing API
- Errors during data collection



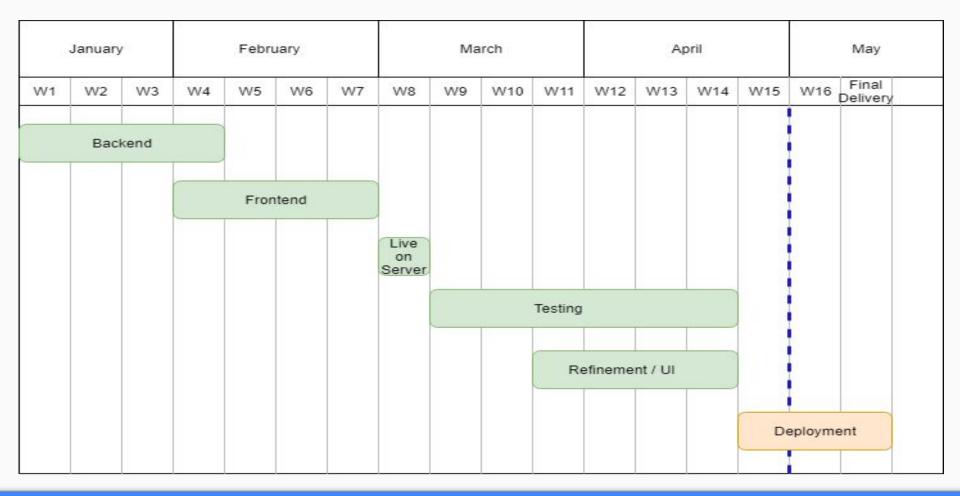
Obstacles

- Speed of data delivery to the user.
 - Increased mining time, decreased display time.
- Mining Data Asynchronously
 - Scheduling and automation



| August / September | | September | | | | October | | | | November | | | | December | | |
|-----------------------|----|-----------|----|----|-------------------|---------|----|----|-----|----------|--------------|-----|-------------------------|----------|-----|--|
| W1 | W2 | W3 | W4 | W5 | W6 | W7 | W8 | W9 | W10 | W11 | W12 | W13 | W14 | W15 | W16 | |
| | | | | 1 | Require Acquis | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | ware sign | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | Testing Technologies | | | |

Semester 1 Schedule



Semester 2 Schedule

Future Work

- Sentiment analysis of pull request comments
- Repository activity projection using machine learning
- Ability to track repositories being mined
- Ability to "favorite" repositories of interest



Conclusion

- OSS importance
- Problems
 - Finding a First Project
 - Information Overload
 - Inactivity/No Feedback
 - Unaccepting of New Contributions
- Solution: Redesign OSS interface
- Impact: Make that 10% difference.



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- See the Product: gitossum.com
- Poster in Fieldhouse: 2-4 pm